



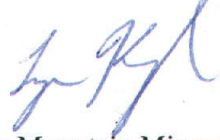
State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 21, 1999

TO: Minerals File
FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Specialist 
RE: Site Inspection, Geneva Steel Inc., Iron Mountain Mine, M/021/008, Iron County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 13, 1999
Time of Inspection: 10:00 a.m.
Conditions: Warm and Clear
Participants: Clyde Gabbitas, Geneva Steel; Lynn Kunzler and Doug Jensen, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To inspect site pursuant to request for long-term suspension.

On September 20, 1999, the Division received a letter from Geneva Steel indicating that they would be going into long-term suspension at this mine. As required by Rule R647-4-117.3, this site was inspected to assure the site was stable prior to approving the long-term suspension.

There has not been much change from last site visit. No apparent off-site impacts were observed. Much of the Comstock area had a fair vegetation cover (predominantly sweet clover and rabbit brush). Water level in the Comstock pit had risen about a foot in the last year. Of special concern for this area was that the lock on the gate had been cut. Mr. Gabbitas indicated that this has been a re-occurring problem and that they replace the lock about twelve times each year. He indicated a new lock would be on the gate by the weekend.

While in this area, two potential sites were located for the mitigation of the Tiptop and Excelsior dumps. The first area is between the Ant Hill Farm and the dumps; the second and preferred area was to the south of the dump. This area is visually estimated to be about 6-5 acres of grandfathered disturbance, including a pit (the YJ pit) of about 1-1/5 acres that showed environmental and safety concerns and a large area of small piles with a lack of vegetation. Mr. Gabbitas was favorable in selecting this site for the mitigation, which would include filling the pit to remove the safety hazards and revegetation of the entire area. The area by the ant hill farm was estimated to be between 2-3 acres. This area had a small waste pile that would need to be regraded and the area ripped and seeded. Mr. Gabbitas indicated that both sites could be included if required. These options will be presented to DOGM management and, if acceptable, Geneva Steel will be notified to make a formal submission of the mitigation plan.

At the Tiptop pit, the rabbit brush has expanded its coverage. A few bitterbrush and indian ricegrass plants were noted as well. At the Iron Mountain site, everything appeared stable. We took pictures of the area where UDOT was obtaining gravels for highway projects. This is the only area where activity may take place during the long-term suspension. Note, the gate was properly locked into this area.

Photos were taken of the site.